



UTTOXETER
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE YEAR 1948

AUGUST, 1949

ANNUAL REPORT

Council Offices,
Northgate,
Uttoxeter, Staffs.

August, 1949.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Uttoxeter Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Hill, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the Uttoxeter Urban District for the year 1948.

This Report is prepared on the lines indicated by the Minister in Ministry of Health Circular 3/49 (England) dated 17th January, 1949.

Vital Statistics.

In the Uttoxeter Urban District the birth rate, 20.33 per 1,000 estimated population, although lower than the birth rate in your District during 1947, 22.8 per 1,000 estimated population, and lower than the average rate of the five previous years, 21.69 per 1,000 estimated population, was higher than the birth rate of 17.9 per 1,000 population with regard to the country as a whole. On the other hand, the death rate for your District during 1948, 12.36 per 1,000 estimated population, although lower than the death rate for 1947 which was 14.2 per 1,000, was higher than the death rate, 10.8 per 1,000 population, for England and Wales.

The infantile mortality rate of 87.84 per 1,000 live births, and the stillbirth rate of 1.24 per 1,000 of the estimated population with respect to your District, were both higher than the same rates last year which were 62.9 per 1,000 live births and 0.43 per 1,000 estimated population, respectively, and higher than the rates for the country as a whole which in 1948 were 34 per 1,000 live births and 0.42 per 1,000 population respectively.

Housing.

This Council has erected some 96 houses or 106 dwellings since the end of the war, and in this way many persons have been accommodated. During the year under review the Council continued to give a great deal of attention to this very important matter. The number of houses built, and under construction, during the year is recorded in the body of this report.

In general the Council's policy has been to house as many married couples with children, who are lodgers, as possible. Later as this important group are more and more provided for, attention

will have to be turned to the re-housing of people who are at present resident in accommodation which falls far below modern housing standards.

Water Supply.

This Council's Supplementary Water Supply Scheme has not, as yet, received the approval of the Ministry of Health, this approval having been held up by the proposal, now withdrawn, of inclusion in the limits of supply of the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board. Additional water supply is urgently needed not only in your own District, but also by the residents in the adjacent Rural District in which your principal source of supply is situated, and which your main traverses as it brings the water to the town.

Both within the bounds of the Urban District and in the Rural area above referred to, many dairy farms are severely handicapped in the production of milk, both as regards quantity and quality, by the shortage of an adequate supply of wholesome water, so that with regard to these and other considerations mentioned later in this report, the granting of approval of the comprehensive scheme of water supply from the Hulme Springs is eagerly anticipated.

Conclusion.

I have to record my gratitude to the Members of the Health and Highways and other Committees for their kindness and support during the year. I also wish to thank once again, the officials of the Council for their continued and readily given help. The acceptance of delegation of powers from the Staffordshire County Council in connection with the Home and Domestic Help Scheme during the period November, 1947, to 5th July, 1948, threw additional work on the Chief Financial Officer and his Department, and his help in this matter was much appreciated. Finally I have to thank your Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, Mr. S. S. Proud, for his assistance in the preparation of this report, and for his co-operation at all times.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Hill, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. D. C. S. CAMERON.

Health and Highways Committee, 1948.

Chairman—

COUNCILLOR A. O. DAVIES.

Members—

Coun. G. Elliott, J.P.	Coun. T. C. E. Plant
„ T. W. Johnson	„ B. Snart
„ F. M. Mellor, F.R.G.S.	„ C. J. Tunncliffe
„ G. J. W. Mosley, J.P.	„ W. Clarke
„ W. Rushton	„ A. J. Fryer, J.P.
„ S. H. Elkes, M.B.E., J.P.	„ J. R. Oddie, M.B., Ch.B.
„ S. Lunnun	„ W. Preston

Public Health Officers.

Medical Officer of Health—

A. D. C. S. CAMERON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector—

S. S. PROUD, M.I.Mun.E., A.R.I.C.S., Cert.R.S.I.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1948.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area	(Acres)	3,351
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population (Mid 1948)		7,280
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1948 according to the Rate Books		2,139
Rateable value		£36,673
Sum represented by the product of 1d. rate.		£143
Number of persons per acre		2.17
Number of houses per acre		0.64
Average number of persons per house		3.40

The Urban District of Uttoxeter consists of a prosperous country town which, by reason of its central position, is called on to provide the marketing, shopping and other facilities for the large agricultural, and more especially, dairying countryside which surrounds it. There is, therefore, in your District, an important Cattle Market, and each week a large open air produce market is set up in the market square of the town. These markets are well attended so that there is an influx of numerous people into your District on market days and, to a lesser extent, on Saturdays.

Your District contains four large secondary schools, and as educational policy has been to centralise this stage of education, an increasing number of scholars are brought into the town by 'bus on each school day.

In addition to an extensive agricultural implement factory, there are situated in your District a large and up-to-date biscuit factory, an important manufacturing dairy, a laundry and a gas works, all of which provide employment for most of the male and female labour in your District.

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

Live Births				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	63	77	140
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	4	4	8
Total				67	81	148
Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated population						20.33
Still Births.				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	5	3	8
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	1	0	1
Total				6	3	9
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births						57.32
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 estimated population						1.24
Deaths.				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
				50	40	90
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population						12.36
Deaths from Puerperal Causes						NIL
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.						
				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	6	6	12
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	1	—	1
Total				7	6	13
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age.						
All infants per 1,000 live births						87.84
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births						85.71
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births						125.0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)						18
Deaths from Measles (all ages)						1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)						1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years)						3

Principal Causes of Death.
Uttoxeter Urban District, 1948.

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Heart diseases	15	10	25
Cancer	11	7	18
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	5	5	10
All other causes	1	7	8
Bronchitis	4	3	7
Diarrhoea under two years	2	1	3
Premature Birth	2	1	3
Congenital Malform. Infant Disease—			
Birth Injury	—	2	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	—	2
Pneumonia	0	2	2
Other digestive diseases	1	1	2
Nephritis	2	—	2
Whooping Cough	1	—	1
Measles	1	—	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	—	1
Other diseases of the Circulatory System	1	—	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1	—	1
Suicide	—	1	1
Total	50	40	90

Uttoxeter Urban District.

Vital Statistics for the Year 1948 and the five previous years.

Year.	Rates per 1,000 Estimated Population.			Rate per 1000 Live Births.
	Birth Rate	Stillbirth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Death Rate
1948	20.33	1.24	12.36	87.84
1947	22.80	0.43	14.20	62.89
1946	21.20	0.72	11.10	55.17
1945	21.15	0.15	14.24	28.57
1944	21.35	0.15	9.40	13.79
1943	19.47	1.02	10.17	37.31

Cancer Deaths.

Noted below are the total annual deaths from Cancer according to sex with respect to your District during 1948, and the five previous years. The percentage which these Cancer deaths formed, of the total deaths each year, is also shown.

Year	Male	Female	Total	Percentage of Total Deaths
1948	11	7	18	20%
1947	8	7	15	15%
1946	5	6	11	15%
1945	7	4	11	12%
1944	4	8	12	19%
1943	5	4	9	13%

Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates and Analysis of Mortality.

	Uttoxeter Urban District	England and Wales	126 C.B.'s and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Res. Population 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census	London Admin. County
	Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.				
Births—					
Live Births	20.33	17.9(a)	20.0	19.2	20.1
Still Births	1.24	0.42(a)	0.52	0.43	0.39
Deaths—					
All Causes	12.36	10.8(a)	11.6	10.7	11.6
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.14	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Diphtheria	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Tuberculosis	0.41	0.51	0.59	0.46	0.63
Influenza	—	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.02
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioence- phalitis	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.28	0.41	0.38	0.36	0.54
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
Deaths—					
All causes under 1 year of age	87.84	34(b)	39	32	31
Enteritis and Diarr- hoea under 2 years of age	20.27	3.3	4.5	2.1	2.4

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory Facilities.

In so far as your District is concerned, laboratory facilities were available during 1948 in the County town of Stafford, some fourteen miles distant. Specimens and samples submitted to these laboratories for investigation were transmitted mainly by 'bus, both by the Medical Practitioners in your District and by this Department.

Ambulance Facilities.

During the first part of 1948 right up to the appointed day, a twenty-four hour ambulance service continued to be provided as in previous years by two ambulances, both of which were garaged in Uttoxeter and which belonged respectively to this Council and to the St. John's Ambulance Brigade. These ambulances were manned during the day by the employees of this Council. At night the service was carried on through the voluntary services, as drivers and attendants, of members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

On the 5th July, 1948, both of these ambulances passed to the County Council as the local health authority, and a twenty-four hour ambulance service was maintained during the latter part of the year by the Staffordshire County Ambulance Service, a sufficient number of full-time employees being engaged by the County Council for this purpose. During the transitional period before the County Council had engaged its full complement of staff, those members of the St. John's Ambulance to whom I have already referred, continued to volunteer their services during the night, thus increasing the indebtedness of the local people to them, and facilitating in a practical way the transfer of this service to the local health authority.

Nursing in the Home.

Prior to the appointed day, nursing in the home was provided for by the Uttoxeter District Nursing Association. As a result of the efforts of the Association, a very efficient nursing service was available to the residents in your District, by whom it was greatly appreciated.

As from the 5th July, 1948, this service came under the control of the Staffordshire County Council as the local health authority for your District, and the change-over in administration took place without any interruption of this important work. The staff working in Uttoxeter comprised during the year, two general nurses, one full-time midwife, and two part-time midwives and health visitors. In addition to health visiting duties, one health visitor was in attendance during the year at all sessions held at the various clinics in the town. This health visitor was also present at the school medical inspections which were conducted at schools in the Urban District during 1948.

HOSPITALS, TREATMENT CENTRES, AND CLINICS.

Hospitals.

There are not any hospitals in the Uttoxeter Urban District and as in previous years, the arrangements in this connection were as follows :—

Infectious Disease.

Cases of infectious disease which required hospitalisation were treated at the Wissage Isolation Hospital at Lichfield. Prior to the appointed day this hospital was administered by the Mid-Staffordshire Joint Hospitals Board of which this Council was a constituent authority. The hospital came under the jurisdiction of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board as from the 5th July, 1948. After this date the arrangements with reference to the admission of cases to this hospital, however, were substantially the same as those existing prior to the appointed day and continued to be mainly through your Medical Officer of Health.

General Medical and Surgical Cases.

Patients suffering from medical and surgical conditions on account of which they required to be admitted to hospital went mainly to the Infirmaries at Derby, Stoke-on-Trent, Stafford, and Burton-on-Trent. Whereas, under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, at Derby, was included in the Sheffield Hospital Region, the other three infirmaries referred to above, were situated in the Birmingham Hospital Region. Nevertheless, it is possible for patients from Uttoxeter to be admitted to any of these hospitals irrespective of the administrative boundary.

Tuberculosis Beds

Provision for the institutional treatment of patients suffering from this disease became the responsibility of the appropriate Regional Hospital Board after the appointed day. The shortage of nursing staff, and especially of staff trained and willing to nurse this type of case, has been reflected in the waiting lists for sanatoria and in the difficulty which medical practitioners have experienced in having infectious cases of this disease removed from their homes. Your District has, of course, not suffered any more in this connection than other parts of the country. It is to be hoped, however, that the improvement in the recruitment of nurses which is now taking place, will very shortly result in some alleviation of this very serious state of affairs.

Clinics.

Tuberculosis Dispensary.

A Tuberculosis Dispensary is available to residents in your District at which sessions are held each Thursday morning. This clinic was originally provided by the Staffordshire, Wolverhampton

and Dudley Joint Board for Tuberculosis, but since the appointed day the Dispensary has been administered by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.

The Social Worker of the local Health Authority keeps in close touch with the work at the Dispensary and the Health Visitor is present during each session.

Minor Ailments Clinic.

The local education authority, the Staffordshire County Council, during 1948, continued to provide a Minor Ailments Clinic in the Congregational Church Sunday School, Carter Street, Uttoxeter.

Infant Welfare Clinic.

The Staffordshire County Council, during the first part of the year, in its capacity as Welfare Authority for this area and during the second part of the year as the local Health Authority, provided an Infant Welfare Clinic in Uttoxeter, at which sessions were held each Friday afternoon.

Ante-Natal Clinic.

An Ante-Natal Clinic is provided in your District in a similar manner to the Infant Welfare Clinic, by the Staffordshire County Council. Sessions are held fortnightly.

Home and Domestic Help Service.

The year under review was the first complete year during which a Home and Domestic Help Service was in operation in Uttoxeter. During the first part of the year prior to the 5th July, 1948, the operation of this scheme was under the immediate control of this Council as a result of the powers of which this Council had accepted delegation from the County Council. After the appointed day the service was conducted by the local health authority as part of its Domestic Help Service provided under permissive powers deriving from Section 29 of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

This is one of the services provided under the National Health Service Act for which the local health authority, with the approval of the Minister, may recover, from persons availing themselves of it, such charges (if any) as the authority considers reasonable, having regard to the means of those persons. This entails in those cases in which the applicant states that he is unable to pay the full amount, an assessment of income, and the application of a scale which results in the charge (if any) which is made for the services of the Help, being related to what the individual is able to pay. The outcome of this was that, while those who could afford to pay for this service were asked to do so, the services of a Help did not require to be forgone by any genuine case which required a Help, simply because of financial considerations.

During the first part of the year to the 5th July, 1948, three part-time Helps were employed. They assisted four cases working a total of 283 hours, the average time spent daily at a case being $3\frac{1}{5}$ hours.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Public Cleansing.

During 1948, as in previous years the collection and disposal of refuse continued to be successfully dealt with in your District. The controlled tip on the Cockstabbles site was again made use of throughout the year, and as a result of careful attention to the method of tipping, along with the use of a sufficiency of covering material, the state of the tip was generally satisfactory and no serious nuisance arose.

Towards the end of the year it became apparent that a fresh site for use as a controlled tip would be necessary. Through the co-operation of Messrs. Bamford's Limited, it was possible to ear-mark a site extending to approximately three acres and situated in the Timber Lane area, for this purpose. The site in question is scheduled by the Town and Country Planning Authority to be a permanent playing field. Before the site could be used for this purpose, the raising and levelling of the ground which will result from its use as a controlled tip, would be required.

When tipping has ceased on the Cockstabbles site, the ground is to be levelled and brought into a suitable condition so that it will provide an open space in which children from the surrounding residential property may play.

WATER SUPPLY.

Supplementary Water Supply Scheme.

The comprehensive scheme of improvement and enlargement of this Council's water supply undertaking which has been prepared by the Council and which was mentioned in my Report last year, was the subject of a Public Inquiry on the 27th May, 1948. The Inquiry was conducted, on behalf of the Ministry of Health, by H. F. Moloney, Esq., M.A., M.I.C.E. Approval has not as yet been given to the scheme, so that it has not as yet been possible to proceed with the work. In August, 1948, it was learned that the Ministry of Health considered that in view of the Bill being promoted by the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board, and which extended the Board's limits of supply so as to include this Urban District, this Council should discuss their Supplementary Water Supply Scheme with the Board and obtain the Board's views thereon. It has since transpired that the Board no longer intends to include this Urban District in its proposals. In these circumstances, it is hoped that approval may soon be given to this Council's Supplementary Scheme. This is an urgent question as, once more there was, during 1948, a shortage of supply to the higher parts of your District. From the long term point of view also, an increased

water supply will be required by this town, the population of which may considerably increase as a result of the influx of new industry.

I have already commented on the large number of pupils who come into schools in Uttoxeter each day from the surrounding districts. This number increased during 1948, and this fact, along with the increased provision of canteen facilities which has been made at the various schools in your District, must also be considered in relation to water supply. A complaint of shortage at one secondary school was received during the year, while at the Junior School the pressure was frequently very low.

Swimming Bath.

In August, 1928, this Council inaugurated a large open air swimming pool utilising water from the Picknalls Brook for this purpose. This innovation was a very popular one. No means of purifying this water was installed but the matter was deferred for consideration at a later date.

This swimming pool fell into disuse during the war years, and its re-opening has been earnestly and frequently considered by this Council. Ultimately it was reluctantly decided at the early part of the year under review, that in view of the defective water supply to the bath, both as regards quality and quantity, it would be impracticable to renovate the bath at the present time.

There is no doubt that a strong demand for such a bath exists, and it is clear that such a bath will require to be provided in the future in your District. The matter is all the more important in view of the number of secondary schools which the town contains. The interests, both of this Council and of the Local Education Authority, would appear to be identical with regard to the provision of a swimming bath in your District. The co-operation of the two authorities might well expedite the carrying out of this important and really urgent project. In this connection also, the question of the adequacy of the town's mains water supply will once more arise.

Water Analysis.

Analysis, both chemical and bacteriological, have been carried out at regular intervals on samples of water from your District mains supply. During 1948 the reports of such analysis were consistently satisfactory and specimen reports are appended below. During the year no action was necessary with reference to the contamination of water supplies and no serious plumbo-solvent action of the water supply has been observed.

The following are reports on samples taken on the 16th August from Pump well, Crumpwood Waterworks.

<i>Chemical Analysis :—</i>		Parts per 100,000
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F.	.....	25.5
Free and Saline Ammonia	.....	Nil

<i>Chemical Analysis (cont.)</i>	Parts per 100,000
Albuminoid	0.0004
Nitric Nitrogen	0.1
Chlorine	1.6
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F.	0.008
Appearance	Clear
Injurious Metallic contamination	None
pH Value	7.2
Hardness before boiling	12.8
„ after „	3.3
Temporary Hardness	9.5

This water is chemically of satisfactory quality and if passed bacteriologically may be considered suitable for drinking.

Bacteriological Report.

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days, 37°C.—Nil per 100 ml.

In your District 2,111 houses are supplied with water directly from public water mains and the number of the local population so supplied comprises some 7,124 persons.

There are a certain number of houses supplied by means of outside taps, which are gradually being reduced by informal arrangements with the owners to provide an indoor supply. Some 44 houses have their own private supply.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

During 1948 one new additional surface water trunk main was laid. This main conducts surface water from the Bentley House Estate and it discharges into the Tean Brook.

This Council, having in mind the number of houses that have already been erected in this District during recent years, and in view of the proposed future development of land already in the hands of this Council, had under consideration during the year the question of the provision of additional foul water and surface water sewers.

These new trunk mains will require to be laid from the sites which are being developed to the Sewage Works. In this connection the Balance Hill Housing Estate presents an especially urgent problem. A scheme for the services necessary for the development of this estate is being prepared.

Last year the need for additional storm water tanks at the “Seven Acres” Sewage Works was referred to. The need for these tanks still prevails.

In accordance with the Public Health (Drainage of Trade Premises) Act, 1937, a local authority may lay down the conditions upon which it will agree to the discharge of trade effluent into a public sewer. During the year a request was received by this Council from the Uttoxeter Gas Works Company, to receive the trade waste from their works. Dr. S. H. Jenkins, D.Sc., F.I.C.,

Chief Chemist to the Birmingham, Tame and Rea District Drainage Board, was consulted by this Council with regard to this question. Dr. Jenkins, after a comprehensive investigation which included the making of analyses of the trade effluent, the crude sewage, tank and final effluent, advised the Council upon what conditions this trade waste should be accepted into the sewers. These conditions provided for the discharge of the ammoniacal liquor at a uniform rate of flow between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. and stipulated that the cooling water and any similar effluent should be accepted at a temperature of 11 °F.

The County Medical Officer of Health, on Dr. Jenkins' advice, was asked for his views on the matter and the Council has since intimated its willingness to accept the trade waste from the Gas Works on certain stipulated conditions.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

As in previous years the occupiers of the various factories in your District were again, during 1948, most co-operative and no difficulty was experienced in having those Sections of the Factory Act, which it is the responsibility of this Council to enforce, carried out.

Fifty-one inspections were made during the year, with respect to these factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the Act are enforced by this Authority and as a result three written notices were served. In four instances defects with respect to Section 1 of the Act, want of cleanliness were found, and subsequently remedied. Ineffective drainage of floors, Section 6, was found in two cases, both of which have since been remedied. Two cases were also found and remedied under Section 7 of the Act, regarding insufficiency of sanitary conveniences. In one factory under the same Section it was found that separate accommodation was not provided for the sexes.

HOUSING.

During the year under review, thirty houses and four bungalows were completed by this authority and four houses and two bungalows were erected in the District by private enterprise. These properties are all now occupied.

At the end of 1948, eight houses were in the course of erection by this Council and two by private enterprise.

The Council still owns land which awaits development, and in the section on drainage and sewerage, it has already been observed that the Council is aware of the urgent need for the provision of services to allow of the further development of these housing estates, and is taking practicable steps to undertake this very large and heavy task.

A comprehensive layout has been prepared for the Weaver Lodge and Bentley Houses Estates comprising some 104.9 acres.

Additional houses will be erected on these Estates in accordance with the particular allocation of the Ministry of Health.

The Council had, at the end of the year, a waiting list of 435 applicants for houses.

INSPECTION OF FOOD.

Meat.

The fresh and frozen meat allocated for consumption in the Urban Area was regularly inspected during 1948 at the one central slaughterhouse which is situated in your District in premises requisitioned by the Ministry of Food for this purpose, in Pinfold Street.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1,561	952	2,144	69
Number inspected	1,561	952	2,144	69
All diseases except Tuberculosis				
Whole carcasses condemned	8	2	4	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	317	7	55	22
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis	20.8	.945	2.7	34.7
Tuberculosis Only				
Whole carcasses condemned	70	—	—	3
Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned	494	1	10	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	36.1	.105	.466	14.5

Inspection and supervision was also carried out throughout the year with respect to foodstuffs, in tins, packages and cartons, where stored or displayed for sale. Condemnation certificates were issued for such foodstuffs as were considered unfit for human consumption.

Ice Cream.

Periodic inspection of the premises of various ice cream vendors was carried out during the year, and conditions were found to be generally satisfactory.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

During 1948 the number of notifications received with respect to the various infectious diseases other than Tuberculosis, was as follows :—

<i>Infectious Disease.</i>	<i>Number of Cases.</i>
Whooping Cough	40
Measles	22
Scarlet Fever	8
Erysipelas	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	2
	<hr/>
	76
	<hr/>

Of these, three cases of Scarlet Fever were admitted to hospital. Two deaths due to notifiable infectious disease occurred during the year. The death of a boy aged eleven months was attributable to Measles, and that of a boy aged three weeks to Whooping Cough.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE GROUP.

AGE PERIOD IN YEARS.

	Under 1 year	1—2 years	2—3 years	3—4 years	4—5 years	5—10 years	10—15 years	15—20 years	20—35 years	35—45 years	45 years and over	Totals	Total
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	
Whooping Cough	3 1	2 2	2 4	6 4	5 1	6 4	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	24 16	40
Measles	2 -	6 -	2 2	2 4	2 1	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	14 8	22
Scarlet Fever	- -	1 -	- -	1 -	- 1	1 3	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	3 5	8
Erysipelas	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- 1	1 1	2 2	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- 1	- -	- 2	2

The outstanding feature of the year as regards infectious disease was the high incidence of Whooping Cough. This was the highest annual incidence of the disease since 1943, and contrasts with 1947, when there were not any notifications received with respect to this disease. During 1948 20% of the children affected were aged two or less than two years.

The notifications with respect to Measles were not so high numerically but 36% of the cases, affected the age group of two or less than two years.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE—INCIDENCE IN 1948 COMPARED WITH FIVE PREVIOUS YEARS.

Disease.	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943
Diphtheria	—	1 (Non-civilian)	1	3	13	2 (1 Non-civilian)
Scarlet Fever	8	12	24	12	9	12 (1 Non-civilian)
Whooping Cough	40	—	19	5	11	56
Measles	22	89	2	63	149	13
Erysipelas	4	3	—	2	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	1	1	—	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	2	1	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	1	—	—	1	1 (Non-civilian)
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—	—	1	—	—	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1948—MONTHS OF OCCURRENCE.

Month	DISEASE.				
	Whooping Cough	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia
January	—	20	1	—	—
February	—	—	—	—	1
March	—	—	—	1	—
April	—	—	—	—	—
May	—	—	1	—	—
June	—	—	2	—	—
July	—	—	—	—	1
August	3	—	1	1	—
September	4	—	—	—	—
October	14	—	—	1	—
November	7	—	1	—	—
December	12	2	2	1	—
TOTALS	40	22	8	4	2

INFECTIOUS DISEASE—NOTIFICATIONS, YEAR 1948.

Case-rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1948.

Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

	Uttoxeter Urban District	England and Wales	126 C.B.'s and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Res. Pop. 25,000 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Admin. County
	Rates per	1,000 Civilian	Population		
Typhoid Fever	—	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Scarlet Fever	1.1	1.73	1.90	1.82	1.37
Whooping Cough	5.49	3.42	3.51	3.31	3.13
Diphtheria	—	0.08	0.10	0.09	0.10
Erysipelas	0.55	0.21	0.23	0.21	0.22
Smallpox.....	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	3.02	9.34	9.75	8.84	9.17
Pneumonia	—	0.73	0.84	0.60	0.57
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.04
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Notifications	(Corrected)	Rates per	1,000 Total	(Live and Still)	Births
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	12.74	6.89	8.90	4.71	7.34(c)

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During that part of 1948 prior to the appointed day this Council was responsible for arranging for the immunisation of all children of school age, but under the National Health Service Act, 1946, this responsibility passes to the Local Health Authority upon which is laid the obligation to arrange for the immunisation of all persons in the area of the authority (Section 26).

As in previous years it was possible during 1948 for parents to have their children immunised by their own family doctor free of charge. Immunisation was also available at the Infant Welfare Centre in Uttoxeter, and special immunising sessions were also held at the various schools in Uttoxeter.

The number of children in the Uttoxeter Urban District who completed a full course of primary immunisation against Diphtheria during 1948 was as follows :—

Children of less than five years of age	.....	.....	100
Children aged five to fourteen years	.....	.....	62
Total			162

Number of children aged five to fourteen years who received a single reinforcing injection 74

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION SINCE 1944.

Year	Number Protected		Total	Number receiving reinforcing doses
	Children under 5 years	Children 5—14 years		
1948	100	62	162	74
1947	130	23	153	129
1946	105	2	107	NIL
1945	74	14	88	NIL
1944	51	2	53	NIL

The above figures refer only to children whose record of immunisation has been received in the public health department.

The estimated percentage of the mid-1948 child population in your District immunised against Diphtheria up 31st December, 1948, was as follows :—

Under five years of age	.....	75%
Five to fourteen years of age	.....	88.4%
All Children	.....	81.7%

During 1948 no notifications were received with respect of this disease.

INCIDENCE OF DIPHTHERIA IN THE UTTOXETER URBAN DISTRICT IN THE LAST TEN YEARS.

Year	Number of Cases
1948	NIL
1947	1 (Non-civilian)
1946	1
1945	3
1944	13
1943	2 (1 Non-civilian)
1942	3 (1 Non-civilian)
1941	3
1940	3
1939	6

Average annual incidence (including non-civilian cases)—3.5.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases.

Notifications were received during the year with respect to six cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and four cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis. This latter group includes one non-civilian case.

Deaths.

There were two deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and one death from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The age and sex distribution of these new cases and deaths were as shown below :—

New Cases.

Age Periods	Pulmonary		Total	Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Male	Female		Male	Female	
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Years	—	—	—	—	1	1
15 Years	—	—	—	—	2	2
25 Years	—	—	—	1	—	1
35 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 Years	3	—	3	—	—	—
55 Years	1	—	1	—	—	—
65 Years	2	—	2	—	—	—
TOTALS	6	—	6	1	3	4

Total New Cases Ten.

Deaths.

Age Periods	Pulmonary		Total	Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Male	Female		Male	Female	
Under 1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 Years	1	—	1	1	—	1
55 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 Years	1	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	2	—	2	1	—	1

Total Deaths Three.

Death Rate from Tuberculosis.

	Per 1,000 Population
Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.....	.275
Death Rate from other forms of Tuberculosis .....	.137
Death Rate from all forms of Tuberculosis.....	.412

Tuberculosis in Uttoxeter Urban District showing for each of the last six years the new cases and the deaths, classified as Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary. The death rate per 1,000,000 population from all forms is also given.

Year	Population	New Cases		Deaths		Death Rates per 1,000,000 population
		Pul.	Non-Pul	Pul.	Non-Pul.	
1948	7,280	6	4	2	1	412
1947	6,964	3	4	6	1	1,005
1946	6,838	7	1	4	—	580
1945	6,618	2	—	1	—	151
1944	6,791	3	—	6	—	884
1943	6,883	6	—	2	1	436

